1885

West School

Country School Legacy: Humanities on the Frontier

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COUNTRY SCHOOL LEGACY:

Humanities on the Frontier

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Exhibits Director—Berkeley Lobanov

HISTORIC SITE FORM

State Nebraska County Antelope

Location (in miles & direction from nearest town) 4 miles north of Neligh, Nebr.

Is this the original location? No

Name of building & origin of name West school

West family lived across road from the school

Name & number of the district No. 5

Date built March 7, 1885 Years in use 93

Who built it? A contractor or the community? Don't know

Does it look like it came from a plan book or was it designed by the community? It was a plain A-roofed building typical of most rural schools of that time.

Names of former teachers: 1916-17 thru 1971: Aleida Bennett, Clara McLaugh, Jean Sechfield, Anna Carstensen, Margaret Leslie, Dorothy Kay, Flo Jodl, Effie Rohr, Mabel Beeser, LaVena Stappinger, Frances Schmuel, Velma Logan, Phyllis Woopen, Mrs. Thelma Weinert, Joyce Carnes, Adele Rice, Arlene Stilling, Solly Smith, June Nemis, Doris Henderson, Mary Schrader, Shirley Means, Doris Demme, Mrs. Dale Davis,

Names of former students (family names only): Frady,Todd,Young,Reynolds, Brittel,West,Freeman Cummins,Cooper,Carlson, Peterson, Dem, Doerte,Limmons, Uley, Stonebrook, Smith, Witting, Hopkins, Maw, Curtis Thieman, Hickman, Kehlner, Nauk, Lewis, Bennett, Lynn, Lindberg, Hughes, Petersen, Edger, Cassell, Hopkins, Smith, White, Rutledge, Jones, Metz, Taylor, Baber

Name & address of person in charge of building: Mr. Carl Schrader, Neligh, Neb.

Who is the owner? Mr. Carl Schrader

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COUNTRY SCHOOL LEGACY HISTORIC SITE FORM

Architectural Features:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feature</th>
<th>Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Size of building</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Windows</td>
<td>(four pane, six pane, etc.)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of doors (entrances)</td>
<td>One</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of classrooms</td>
<td>One</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bell tower or cupola</td>
<td>No</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Materials used (wood, brick, stone, etc.)</td>
<td>Wood</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Type of roof</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outhouses</td>
<td>Later bathrooms added upon remodeling</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Playground Equipment</td>
<td>Swings, tether, trampoline, slide</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Color of building &amp; trim</td>
<td>White boards, later covered brown brick composition siding</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coal shed or stable</td>
<td>Both</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Teacherage</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Flagpole</td>
<td>Yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Other architectural features:

Anything left inside?

Narrative Information: Did any special events happen at the school? What stories do people remember?

Current condition & use: Moved & being put back in original condition. The owner's wife, Joe Todd, and daughter, Mary Schroder, were both former teachers.

District records available: yes ___ no ___ where stored ___ Various places ___

Black & white photo taken: yes ___ no ___

Old photos available: yes ___ no ___

Does the building have any state or national historic designation?

Name & address of surveyor: Mrs. Virgil Taylor

Date: March 13, 1981
The first school to serve the settlers around Royal, Nebraska, was held in a log house one mile north and about one-half mile east of Royal. The teacher was Jonas Houston. The pupils were Will and Ella Bligh, Ed and Jennie Field, Ida, Charles, Will, Ed and John Allen, Will and Ed Dikeman, and the children of Pat Reece and of Willet Couch.

This log schoolhouse was discarded for a sod house built one mile east and one-half mile north of Royal Nebr. The teachers were Ida Allen Fannon, Albert Wright, Mable Marrow, Lila Garland. Later a frame building took the place of the sod house.

March 1, 1880     dist #43 Consisted of 13 sections
April 3, 1886     same was detached
Nov. 7, 1890      changed by detaching more
Feb. 14, 1913     entire district was attached
to dist 113 (new school in Royal, nebr.)

From 1903-03 until 1913-13 the same
officers served on the board.

James Reece
Wm. Reece
Geo. McClain

My father, Clarence Dikeman, was
attending #43 at the time of the blizzard
of 1888. A neighbor, Mr. Willet Couch, took
his children and the Dikeman Children
to the Couch home to spend the time
until the Dikeman Children could get to their
home.

Mrs. Virgil Taylor 3-15-81